of India have reported that Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Ltd. had approached the consortium of banks and financial institutions for rescheduleme nt of the rehabilitation loan given to the textile division and term loan given to DMT division. This request of the company was considered at a joint meeting of the concerned banks and financial institutions held in January, 1986 and it was decided to recommend rescheduleme nt of these loans, subject to prescribed approvals.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India has prescribed that reschedulement of term loans to sick units may be considered as part of rehabilitation packages which are prepared for viable sick units, on a case to case basis.

Tax evasion by leather exporting firms

2601. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated 5th January, 1987, wherein it has been stated that tax evasion amounting to Rs. 200 crores has been detected in Tamil Nadu in which twenty finished leather exporting firms in Tamil Nadu are involved;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against the firms by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated 5th January, 1987. The facts of the case are as follows:—

In pursuance of an information regarding claiming higher duty draw-back by furnishing false and inflated consumption data of inputs for manufacture of finished leather, the officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence searched the premises of the following firms on 2.12.1986:—

(i) M|s. Inter Continental Leather Ltd., Madras (Exporters);

(ii) M|s. Khizaria Leathers, Madras (Exporters);

(iii) M|s. Chawla and Chawla, Shiv Mahal, Connaught Place, New Delhi (Consultant);

(iv) M/s. Verma and Mahajan Associates, Karol Bagh, New Delhi (Consultant).

The scrutiny of the seized documents revealed that exporters got the brand rates of drawback fixed with retrospective effect by producing grossly inflated consumption data with the help of their Consultants. Besides, the evidence was also created to show as if drawback claims were filed in time. The Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters' Association has blamed the Consultants for the irregularities and have agreed to refund the excess drawback claimed by them. So far an amount of Rs. 73.99 lakhs have been refunded by them.

Government Officers involved in providing Information to Shri S. Gurumurthy

2602. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry to find out the Government Officers responsible for providing information to Shri S. Gurumurthy for his articles in *'Indian Express'* regarding Reliance Industries in violation of the official secrets act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI